



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Light measurements.—Following the well known methods of WIESNER, several careful investigations by RÜBEL have largely increased our knowledge of light conditions in alpine and desert regions and at sea. The most prolonged of these studies was made at Bernina Hospice,¹⁵ a station in the Alps with an elevation of 2309 meters, where it has been clearly demonstrated that both the maximum light intensity and the light totals are greater than those for lower altitudes. The minimum light intensity at midday in the Alps is much higher than at Vienna, the ratio being 85:7; while a similar relation exists between the light totals. Other interesting items from the abundant data are the nearly equal values of direct and diffuse light during the growing period, the somewhat increased light intensity after precipitation, and the decidedly greater available light on southern as compared with northern slopes. Many of these data may prove valuable in interpreting alpine vegetation.

Observations made at sea¹⁶ tend to show that the maximum light intensity differs little from those of regions of low altitude on shore, but that the amount of diffuse light is somewhat greater. The characteristic of desert light conditions¹⁷ appears to be the low light intensity both at full sunlight and with cloudy sky, an intensity which increases considerably, however, immediately after rainfall. This must have some influence in modifying the otherwise extremely xerophytic conditions, but the author seems to follow other investigators of light phenomena in failing to recognize the influence of light upon transpiration.—GEO. D. FULLER.

Work at Peradeniya.—The numerous publications issued from the Royal Botanic Gardens at Peradeniya indicate great activity, which naturally expresses itself chiefly in investigations connected with economic plants. T. PETCH, the mycologist, has found a very fruitful field for cultivation; recent *Circulars* dealing with "Brown root disease" (*Hymenochaete noxia*), which attacks several of the most important plants; "A root disease of *Hevea*" (*Sphaerostilbe repens*), the Para rubber plant; "Root diseases of *Acacia decurrens*," a plant extensively used as a wind-break for tea or for "green manuring"; "Root diseases of tea"; and "Cacao and *Hevea* canker." In the *Annals*, the same author has presented a study of *Lasiodiplodia*,¹⁸ showing in a striking way the confusion that has arisen among the subgenera of *Diplo-*

¹⁵ RÜBEL, E., Untersuchungen über das photochemische Klima des Berninahospizes. Viertel. Natf. Gesell. Zürich 53:1-78. 1908.

¹⁶ ———, Beiträge zur Kenntnis des photochemischen Klimas der Canaren und des Ozeans. *Idem* 54:289-308. 1909.

¹⁷ ———, Beiträge zur Kenntnis des photochemischen Klimas von Algerien. *Idem* 55:91-102. 1910.

¹⁸ PETCH, T., On *Lasiodiplodia*. Ann. Roy. Bot. Gard. Peradeniya 4:445-465. 1910.